

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 AID-20 RSR-01 /113 W
----- 028531

R 100835 Z APR 73

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 936

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE IZMIR 122

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: RPP REACTION TO PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION AND
OTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

1. RPP IZMIR PROVINCIAL CHAIRMAN, KAYA BENGISU, TOLD
US HE WAS PLEASED AT WHAT HE CONSIDERED SUCCESSFUL
OUTCOME OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. BENGISU HAD AT
ONE POINT THOUGHT IT QUITE POSSIBLE THAT MILITARY
MIGHT INTERVENE (SEE IZMIR 78). AS ELECTION DRAGGED
OUT, HOWEVER, BENGISU BECAME INSISTENT ON PARLIAMENTARY
PREROGATIVE AND OPPOSED ECEVIT AT ANKARA MEETING

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OF PROVINCIAL LEADERS ON QUESTION OF TWO YEAR
EXTENSION OF SUNAY TERM.

2. AS TO SHAPE OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS, BENGISU
FORESAW WITHDRAWAL OF MELEN GOVT AND FORMATION
OF JP- RPP GOVT TO CARRY THROUGH UNTIL GENERAL
ELECTIONS. BENGISU REFUSED TO LABEL SUCH A GOVT AS
QTE COALITION UNQTE. PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE CARE-
TAKER FORM JP, BUT WOULD NOT BE DEMIREL, BENGISU
EMPHASIZED. TO RETURN DEMIREL TO POWER WOULD BE
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TO INVITE REPETITION OF MARCH 12, IN BENGISU OPINION. LIKE OTHER PROVINCIAL PARTY CHAIRMEN, BENGISU NOT RPT NOT IN FAVOR OF EARLY ELECTIONS. THERE JUST NOT TIME ENOUGH TO PREPARE, BENGISU SAID. ONE OF BIGGEST PROBLEMS HE MUST DEAL WITH, ACCORDING TO BENGISU, IS SELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR PARLIAMENT WHICH WILL TRULY REPRESENT THOSE SUPPORTING RPP. TO THIS END, BENGISU SAID THAT HE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING INCLUSION OF AT LEAST ONE VILLAGER ON DEPUTY LIST FOR IZMIR.

3. BENGISU DESCRIBED APRIL 1-2 VISIT OF ECEVIT TO IZMIR AS VERY SUCCESSFUL. ECEVIT ATTENDED KEMALPASHA

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COUNTY CONGRESS AND GAVE OUTDOOR SPEECH TO LARGE AND ENTHUSIASTIC AUDIENCE. IT WAS FIRST OPEN AIR POLITICAL MEETING IN IZMIR TO TWO YEARS AND WAS NO-HOLDS- BARRED. AUTHORITIES DID NOT INTERFERE IN ANY WAY, BENGISU SAID. ECEVIT DWELLED ON PROBLEMS OF FARMERS AND CASTIGATED JP AND DP. FOLLOWING EVENING, ECEVIT WAS MAIN ATTRACTION AT RPP NIGHT IN IZMIR'S COVERED SPORT HALL ATTENDED BY CAPACITY CROWD OF SEVERAL THOUSAND.

4. BENGISU, REFRESHINGLY FRANK PARTY ORGANIZER WHO NOT CARRIED AWAY BY EMOTIONAL TIDES OF PARTISANSHIP, VERY MUCH ENCOURAGED BY WHAT HE TERMS BREAKTHROUGH QTE NEW UNQTE RPP HAS MADE WITH ELECTORATE. ACCORDING BENGISU, VOTERS REALLY NOW BEGINNING TO BELIEVE THAT RPP WILL QTE CHANGE THE ORDER UNQTE.

SMITH

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